

Message Text

SECRET

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73

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 AEC-11 AF-10 ARA-11

CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-11 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NASA-04

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OIC-04 OST-04 PA-03 PRS-01

RSC-01 GAC-01 SCI-06 SS-14 MBFR-03 USIA-12 SAJ-01

RSR-01 /199 W

----- 067337

R 301800 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8077

INFO: RUFHGV/ USMISSION GENEVA 1712

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T ROME 2540

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM IT

SUBJ: ITALIAN VIEWS ON CW ARMS CONTROL

REF: STATE 54311, GENEVA 1343

1. DURING REVIEW OF CCD DEVELOPMENTS AND PROSPECTS, FONOFF DEP DIRECTOR DISARMAMENT OFFICE REPEATED ITALIAN VIEWS ON CW AS REPORTED REFTELS. FONOFF OFFICIAL SAID THAT, AS RESULT OF CONVERSATIONS IN WASHINGTON, GENEVA AND BRUSSELS, USG POSITION FULLY UNDERSTOOD AND HAS BEEN TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION IN PREPARING INSTRUCTIONS FOR GOI REP DI BERNARDO' S SPEECH TO CCD IN EARLY APRIL. INSTRUCTIONS, WHICH HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED FINAL CLEARANCE IN FONOFF, TELL DI BERNARDO TO TREAT CW IN SUFFICIENTLY VAGUE AND FLEXIBLE FASHION SO AS NOT TO PREJUDGE ANY PARTIAL APPROACH WHICH USG MIGHT DEVELOP. HOWEVER, FONOFF OFFICIAL DID NOT SPELL OUT
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HOW DI BERNARDO WOULD TREAT STOCKPILE ISSUE. SOURCE ASSURES US THAT DI BERNARDO, WHO HAS REQUESTED INSTRUCTIONS, WILL NOT DELIVER SPEECH UNTIL THEY ARE RECEIVED.

2. IN DISCUSSION OF CW QUESTION, FONOFF OFFICIAL UNDERSCORED STRONG FEELING WHICH POL DIRGEN DUCCI AND OTHERS HOLD THAT ANY CW APPROACH ADOPTED SHOULD NOT BE DISCRIMINATORY AGAINST NON- CW STATES. ALLUDING TO INTERNAL TEMPEST WHICH NPT SIGNATURE CAUSED IN GOI BECAUSE OF DISCRIMINATORY ASPECTS, OFFICIAL SAID ITALIANS WERE ANXIOUS NOT TO HAVE A REPETITION WITH CW WHICH COULD, IN ADDITION, HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTW ON RATIFICATION PROSPECTS. JUDGING FROM SOURCE' S REMARKS, POINT WHICH APPEARS TO GIVE ITALIANS GREAT- EST DIFFICULTY IS CONCERN THAT CW APPROACH NOT CALLING FOR DES- TRUCTION OF STOCKPILES WOULD LEAVE FRENCH IN INVIDIOUS ADVANT- AGEOUS POSITION VIS- A- VIS OTHER EUROPEAN STATES. OFFICIAL NOTED THAT FRENCH FAVOR GLOBAL APPROACH AND OBSERVED THAT THIS WOULD BE BEST SOLUTION FROM EUROPEAN POLITICAL STANDPOINT. SOURCE SAID THAT ADDITIONAL POINT OF SENSITIVITY FOR GOI RAISED BY CW ISSUE IS THAT ITALIANS SEE SOVIET CW WEAPONS IN EAST- WEST CONTEXT AS TACTICAL ARMS AIMED AGAINST WESTERN EUROPE.

3. RE PARA 6 STATE REFTTEL, SOURCE TOLD US THAT INSTRUCTION FOR CW DEMARCHE WERE SENT TO ITALIAN EMBS BONN AND BRUSSELS IN ADDITION TO WASHINGTON. VOLPE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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